Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Please amend claims 25-46 (formerly numbered 23-44), as shown below.

1-24 (Cancelled)

~~23.~~ 25. (Currently Amended) A method for generating a programme for presentation as a sequence of programme elements from a set of pre-recorded programme elements, comprising:

classifying the programme elements on the basis of programme element content such that each programme element is allocated to at least one class of a predetermined set of classes, wherein each programme element is classified to at least one class separately from other programme elements allocated to the same at least one class;

storing each classified programme element with at least one associated programme element classification code, each classification code identifying a class to which the associated programme element has been allocated;

generating a programme for presentation on a user display device by selecting at least one programme classification code and presenting at least one programme element associated with said at least one programme classification code,

wherein selecting at least one programme classification code comprises displaying user selectable ~~icons~~ symbols on the user display device, each symbol representing a class of associated programme elements and being selectable by a user, and receiving user input corresponding to at least one ~~icon~~ symbol selected by a user; and

wherein the user selectable ~~icons~~ symbols are presented for display on the user display device simultaneous with the presentation of the program.

~~24.~~ 26. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim ~~23~~ 25, wherein each programme element is classified by reference to a type of event to which the element relates.

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25. 27. (Currently amended) A method for generating a programme for presentation as a sequence of programme elements from a set of pre-recorded programme elements, comprising:

classifying the programme elements on the basis of programme element content such that each programme element is allocated to at least one class of a predetermined set of classes;\

storing each classified programme element with at least one associated programme element classification code, each classification code identifying a class to which the associated programme element has been allocated;

generating a programme for presentation on a user display device by selecting at least one programme classification code and presenting programme elements associated with said at least one programme classification code,

wherein selecting at least one programme classification code comprises displaying user selectable symbols on the user display device, each symbol representing a class of associated programme elements and being selectable by a user, and receiving user input corresponding to at least one symbol selected by a user; and

wherein each programme element is classified by reference to a subjective assessment of a value within a range of relative values extending from a low value to a high value.

26. 28. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 23 25, further comprising further classifying program elements by a subjective assessment of value.

27. 29. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 23 25, wherein symbols are displayed in an order corresponding to the temporal order of events represented by the associated programme elements.

28. 30. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 23 25, further comprising:

receiving user input for selecting a sub-set of classes; and

displaying to the user only symbols corresponding to programme elements associated with the selected sub-set of classes.

29. 31. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 23 25, wherein presenting programme program elements comprises presenting a plurality of programme elements simultaneously.

30. 32. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 29 31, wherein video and audio programme elements are presented simultaneously.

31. 33. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 29 31, wherein still image and video programme elements are presented simultaneously.

32. 34. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 23 25, further comprising transmitting programme elements to the user's display device and storing programme elements with the associated programme classification codes at a memory associated with the user's display device.

33. 35. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 32 34, further comprising:

receiving user input for selecting a sub-set of classes; and

transmitting to the user's display device only programme elements associated with the selected sub-set of classes.

34. 36 (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 32 34, further comprising:

receiving user input for selecting a sub-set of classes; and

storing at a memory associated with the user's display device only received programme elements that are associated with the selected sub-set of classes.

35. 37 (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 32 34, wherein generating a programme comprises combining programme elements transmitted to the user's display device with pre-recorded programme elements stored on a data carrier in a memory device of the user's display device.

36. 38. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 32, for generating a programme for presentation as a sequence of programme elements from a set of pre-recorded programme elements, comprising:

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classifying the programme elements on the basis of programme element content such that each programme element is allocated to at least one class of a predetermined set of classes;

storing each classified programme element with at least one associated programme element classification code, each classification code identifying a class to which the associated programme element has been allocated;

generating a programme for presentation on a user display device by selecting at least one programme classification code and presenting programme elements associated with said at least one programme classification code,

wherein selecting at least one programme classification code comprises displaying user selectable symbols on the user display device, each symbol representing a class of associated programme elements and being selectable by a user, and receiving user input corresponding to at least one symbol selected by a user;

wherein the user selectable symbols are presented for display on the user display device simultaneous with the presentation of the program;

wherein the method further comprises transmitting programme elements to the user's display device and storing programme elements with the associated programme classification codes at a memory associated with the user's display device; and

wherein at least one stored programme element is read out such that the duration of the programme element in the generated programme is less than the time taken to transmit a data packet of that programme element to the display device.

37. 39 (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 36 38, wherein generating a programme for presentation on a user display device further comprises repeating the presentation on the user display device of at least one transmitted programme element.

38. 40 (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 23 25, further comprising:

associating an advertisement to an event represented by a particular programme element; and

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presenting advertisements serially with the programme elements to which they are linked.

39. 41 (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 23 25, further comprising:

associating an advertisement to an event represented by a particular programme element; and

presenting advertisements in parallel with the programme elements to which they are linked.

40. 42 (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 23 25, wherein selecting at least one classification code comprises:

receiving user input corresponding to a classification code identifying a class of interest; and

alerting the user to the presentation of a programme element of the selected class of interest.

41. 43 (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 23 25, wherein each classification code represents a subjective indication of the value of programme elements in the class associated with the classification code.

42. 44 (Currently Amended) A method for generating a programme for presentation as a sequence of programme elements from a set of pre-recorded programme elements, comprising:

classifying the programme elements on the basis of programme element content such that each programme element is allocated to at least one class of a predetermined set of classes;

storing each classified programme element with at least one associated programme element classification code, each classification code identifying a class to which the associated programme element has been allocated;

generating a programme for presentation on a user display device by selecting at least one programme classification code and presenting programme elements associated with said at least one programme classification code,

wherein selecting at least one programme classification code comprises displaying user selectable symbols on the user display device, each symbol representing a class of associated programme elements and being selectable by a user, and receiving user input corresponding to at least one symbol selected by a user;

wherein each classification code represents a subjective indication of the value of programme elements in the class associated with the classification code; and

wherein receiving user input comprises receiving input corresponding to user-selected classification codes above a threshold value.

43. 45. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for generating a programme for presentation as a sequence of programme elements from a set of pre-recorded programme elements, comprising

means for storing programme elements with associated programme classification codes, each classification code identifying a class selected from a predetermined set of classes to which class an associated programme element has been allocated on the basis of programme element content, wherein the programme element is allocated to at least one class separately from other programme elements allocated to the same at least one class;

means for selecting at least one programme classification code, and

means for generating a programme by presenting programme elements associated with the selected said at least one programme classification code, including means for displaying symbols to the operator of a display device, the symbols representing the class of associated stored programme elements, and means for operation by the operator to select displayed symbols and thereby select the associated programme elements for presentation by the display device;

wherein the symbols are displayed to the operator of a display device simultaneous with the presentation of programme elements by the display device.

[44.] 46. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for generating a programme for presentation to a user as a sequence of programme elements from a set of pre-recorded programme elements, comprising

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a memory device for storing programme elements with associated programme classification codes, each classification code identifying a class selected from a predetermined set of classes to which class an associated programme element has been allocated on the basis of programme element content, wherein the programme element is allocated to at least one class separately from other programme elements allocated to the same at least one class; and

a user-terminal having a controller for generating a programme by presenting programme elements associated with at least one selected programme classification code, a display device for displaying symbols to the user, the symbols representing the class of associated stored programme elements, and a user input device for operation by the user to select displayed symbols and thereby select at least one classification code, for presentation of programme elements associated with the at least one selected classification code on the display device;

wherein the symbols are displayed to the user simultaneous with the presentation of programme elements on the display device.